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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Kenneth S. Wales : Paper No:

Serial No. 10/615,972 : Group Art Unit: 3721

Filed: July 9, 2003 : Examiner: P. Durand

For: SURGICAL INSTRUMENT WITH A LATERAL-MOVING ARTICULATION CONTROL

AMENDMENT AFTER FINAL REJECTION

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Action, dated November 24, 2004, placing the above patent application under final rejection, please consider the following amendments and the accompanying remarks. The present amendments and remarks address specific comments made by the Examiner in the subject Office Action and should place the present application in form for allowance; therefore, they are appropriately entered under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116. The number of claims in the present application is not increased by virtue of this amendment.

Amendments to the Claims begin on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 7 of this paper.